FALLEN SYNDICATE

PRESENTS

GRAINELIERS

BY TAKARA RHITO

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PROOFREADING: Bec Dailey
CLEANING: Nalena, Alenas
TYPESETTING: Rukayex
QUALITY CHECKING: Usha

A world where small "seeds" hold big power...

WHAT WILL AWAIT YOU, WHO COLLAPSED AFTER SWALLOWING THE SEEDS HE DIDN'T GIVE HIM....?
SFX SPLASH
GAH...
AH...
UGH..

!?
SFX STEP
LUCAS!?
LUCAS!

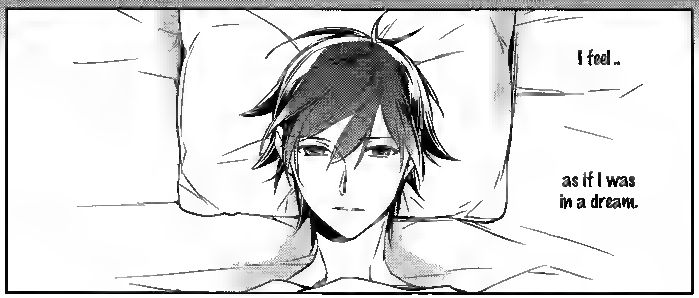
Abel...
!
LUCAS!
My hands and feet are as cold as ice...
What is this...?

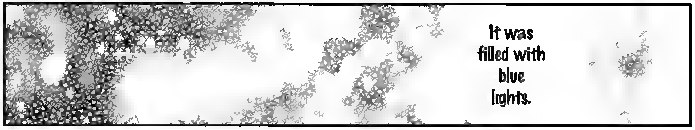
MOM,
WHY WON'T YOU COME HOME?

I'M COLD
huff
cough
cough
cough

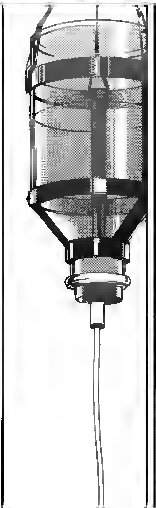
shiver
shiver
shiver
I'M REALLY COLD...

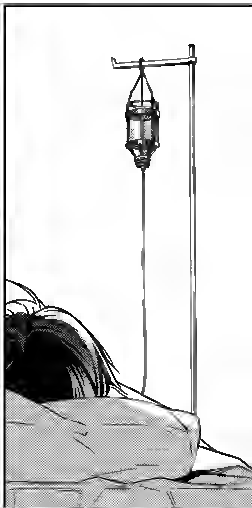
WHERE ARE YOU?
Lucas.
MOM...?

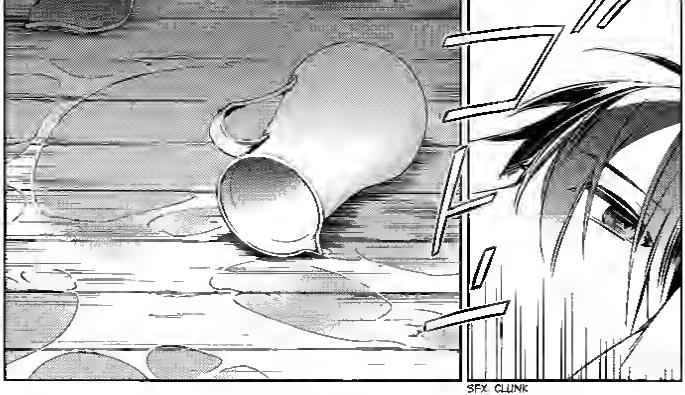

I feel..
as if I was in a dream.


It was filled with blue lights.

IT'S AN AUTOMATIC PLANT WATER BOTTLE






SFX: CLUNK

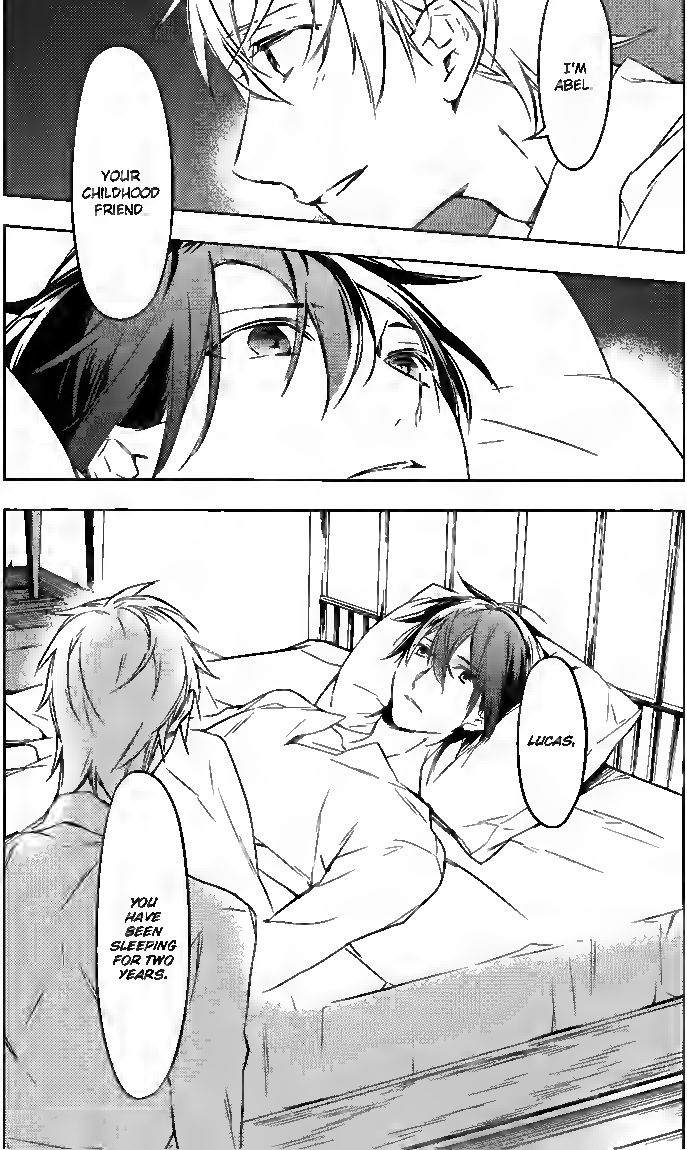
LU... CAS

LUCAS
DO YOU REMEMBER ME, !?
CAN YOU... SEE ME PROPERLY!?

But why are flowers that only bloom in spring...?
It should be just before winter...
HM...? ABEL...
HE LOOKS REALLY SIMILAR, BUT THE ATMO-SPHERE AROUND HIM IS DIFFER-ENT...

Why are you crying?
WAIT A BIT
SFX OPENS
DAD! LUCAS IS--!
LU-CAS...
THANK GOD
I'M SO HAPPY LUCAS!

SFX: SLAM
LUCAS...!
I CAN'T BE-LIEVE IT...
YOU WERE SLEEP-ING, LUCAS,
FOR A LONG TIME.
AH, YOU DON'T NEED TO GET UP.
YOU ARE ?


I'M ABEL.
YOUR CHILDHOOD FRIEND.
LUCAS.
YOU HAVE BEEN SLEEPING FOR TWO YEARS.

GASP
DAD...
WHERE'S DAD...!?
TWO YEARS!?

SORRY.
I DON'T KNOW.
.....

STOP IT, ABEL!
ONLY THAT THERE WERE LOUD NOISES COMING FROM THE DIRECTION OF YOUR HOUSE...

SUCH A BIG NOISE IN A QUIET VILLAGE. SOMETHING MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED
I UNDERSTAND
BUT...
IT'S COMING FROM THE DIRECTION OF LUCAS' HOUSE!

I WAS TOLD THAT...
BUT I WAS STILL WORRIED
YOU STAY HERE
I'LL GO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING

I WENT THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION TO THE BACK OF THE MOUNTAINS AND QUIETLY WENT DOWN

THEN I SAW YOU ON THE GROUND...
THE GRAIN-ELIER'S SECURITY SQUAD CAME
WHEN I REACHED THE FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE I HEARD THE SAME NOISE. SOME OF THE VILLAGERS THEN EMERGED FROM THEIR HOMES
THE SUS-PICIOUS PEOPLE WERE ALL GONE
YOUR HOUSE WAS COVERED IN FLAMES, SO IT'S HARD TO THINK THAT THERE WAS SOMEONE INSIDE
I HAVEN'T HEARD THAT A CORPSE WAS FOUND IN THE BURNT HOUSE
phew
!!

THE REASON THEY WANT YOU IS BECAUSE,
INSIDE YOUR BODY
I DROVE AWAY THE GUYS WHO CAME TO THIS HOUSE...
BUT...
AFTER THAT DAY, THE GRAINELIERS' SECURITY SQUAD CAME TO THE VILLAGE AND ASKED WHERE YOU WERE

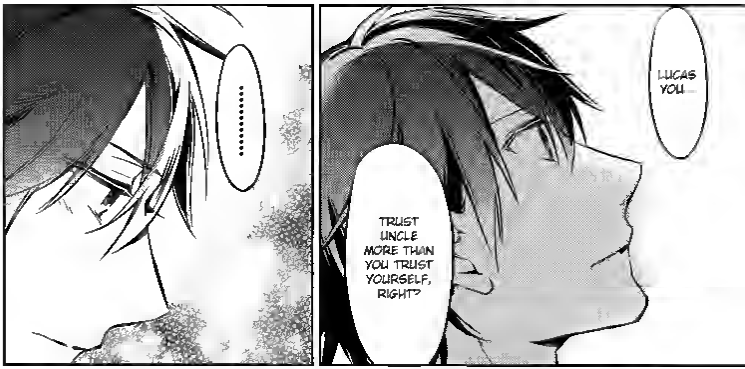
A SEED HAS SPROUTED.

LUCAS.
THUMP
I TOLD YOU THAT YOU CAN'T GET OFF THE BED YOURSELF,
SINCE YOU'VE BEEN SLEEPING FOR TWO YEARS
WILL I REALLY RETURN TO THE WAY I WAS BEFORE?
BEFORE YOUR MUSCLE STRENGTH RETURNS YOU MUST CALL ME
See?
……

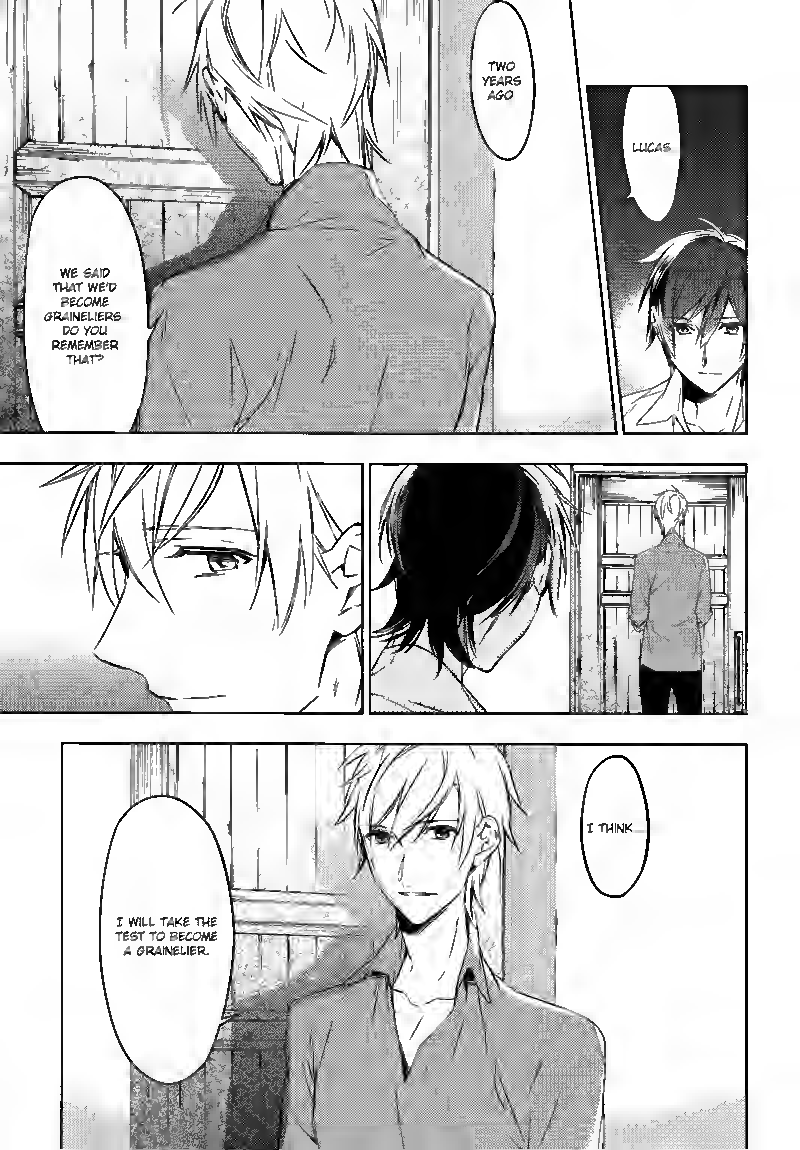
WHEN YOU WERE HUMAN...
BACK TO WHEN I WAS HUMAN...
YOU ARE A HUMAN
YOU JUST HAVE A PLANT IN YOUR BODY...
IT'S THE SAME
LUCAS
THAT'S NOT HUMAN AT ALL.
SORRY, ABEL

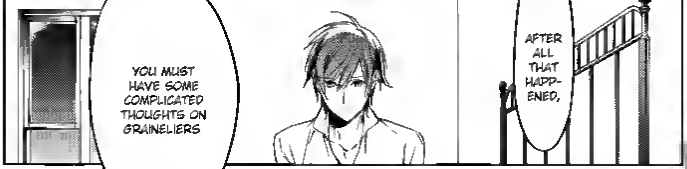
HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON SITTING THERE, LUCAS?
HEY
COME ON
I PREDICTED THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULD HAPPEN
I DID SOMETHING BAD BECAUSE OF MY CARELESSNESS
I THINK YOU'RE THE SAME AS ALWAYS

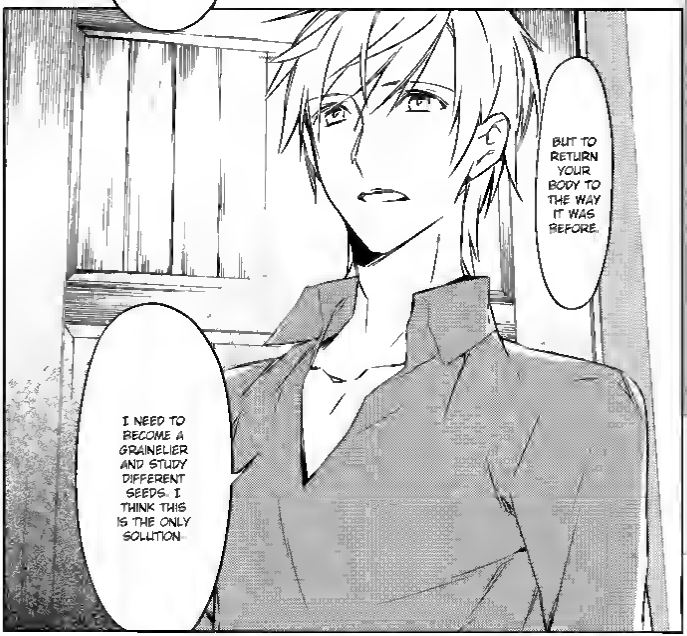
YOU'RE THE SAME LUCAS AS YOU WERE TWO YEARS AGO
NOTHING HAS CHANGED.

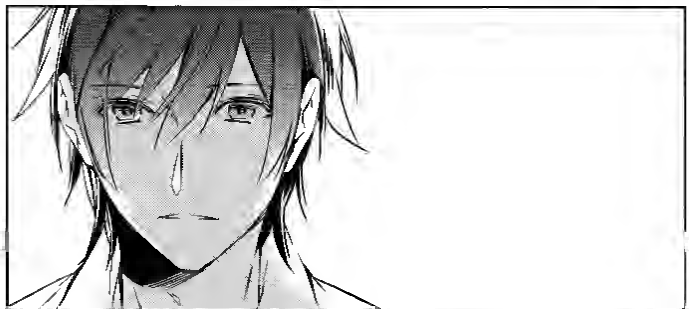

.....
LUCAS YOU...
TRUST UNCLE MORE THAN YOU TRUST YOURSELF, RIGHT?

SFX: HAHA
MY APPEAR-ANCE RIGHT?
Or my height?
YOU HAVE CHAN-GED QUITE A LOT!
OH, THERE'S NO MORE WATER.
I'LL GO GET MORE.


TWO YEARS AGO
LUCAS
WE SAID THAT WE'D BECOME GRAINELIERS DO YOU REMEMBER THAT?
I THINK...
I WILL TAKE THE TEST TO BECOME A GRAINELIER.


AFTER ALL THAT HAPPENED,
YOU MUST HAVE SOME COMPLICATED THOUGHTS ON GRAINELIERS


BUT TO RETURN YOUR BODY TO THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE.
I NEED TO BECOME A GRAINELIER AND STUDY DIFFERENT SEEDS. I THINK THIS IS THE ONLY SOLUTION



The Grainelier exam..

What should i do?
Abel.

Dad.

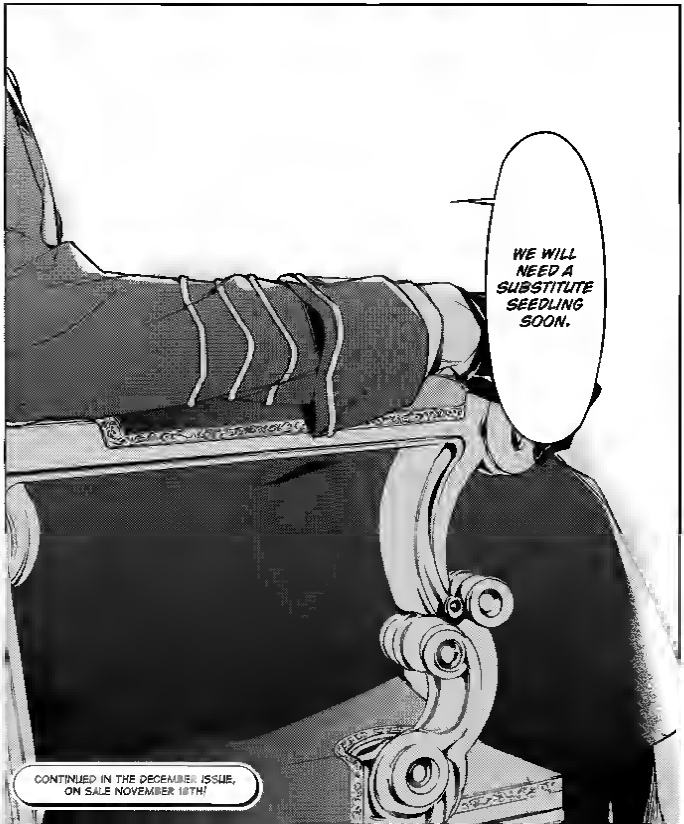
Ohh,
NICE!

HEY.
YOUR MUSCLE STRENGTH RETURNED EARLIER THAN EXPECTED
IT'S BECAUSE HE'S STILL YOUNG.
TO LET HIM GAIN MORE STRENGTH.
CAN WE GO OUTSIDE?
NO!
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF—
WANDERING GRAINELIERS SAW YOU!?
IT WAS TWO YEARS AGO WHEN THEY WERE WANDERING AROUND. I HAVEN'T SEEN THEM AT ALL RECENTLY.
NOT ONLY THE GRAINELIERS, THE VILLAGERS WHO SEE YOU GUYS MIGHT TELL THEM!
THEN WE'LL GO IN DISGUISE!

BE-
CAUSE
LOCKING LUCAS IN THIS HOUSE IS...
WELL...
I DON'T THINK THE GRAINELIER SOCIETY KNOWS WHAT CHRISTOPHER'S SON, HIDDEN IN THIS VILLAGE, LOOKS LIKE...
.....
Yeah
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO LUCAS?

!!
I WANT TO GO
IT'S DECIDED, THEN!
sigh...
LET'S GO!
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DISGUISE AS?
ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING!?
DON'T GO TO PLACES THAT HAVE TOO MANY PEOPLE!
ESPECIALLY PLACES WHERE GRAINELIERS ARE—

HERE IS THE REPORT.



WHO IS THE PERSON WHO RECEIVED THE REPORT?